

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 07 January 1998
Name of applicant/court: Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: Untitled
Other Known Titles: Bits and Pieces 7
Director: Not Stated
Producer: Not Stated
Publisher: Not Applicable
Author: Not Applicable
Format: Video Recording VHS/PAL
Country of Origin: Not Stated
Language: English and German

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Untitled	Running time:	255.43
Trailers:	Nil	Running time:	
		Total Running time:	255.43

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has not been given.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The Classification Office classifies the untitled video recording known as *Bits and Pieces* as:
Objectionable.

The video consists of short excerpts from a number of sexually explicit “adult” video recordings. The one exception is a short clip of a woman undergoing a gynaecological examination. The video’s depictions of urination in association with sexual conduct, and the extreme degree to which it degrades, dehumanises and demeans women, both contribute to the classification.

The video recording includes scenes in which men and women urinate over each other’s bodies and into each other’s mouths. The video promotes and supports these activities by presenting them in a sexual context for the purposes of sexual arousal. The video therefore falls under the deeming provision s3(2)(d) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (the FVPC Act). This provision overrides s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (the NZBR Act), which protects freedom of expression.

Because urination is only featured in isolated segments of the publication, the Classification Office considered whether it would classify the publication differently if these scenes were removed. However, the video recording would still be objectionable. It consists primarily of a relentless barrage of images of vaginal and anal penetration of women, often shown in close focus. The overall effect is that women are orifices to be penetrated rather than people in their own right. This effect is maintained throughout the video recording. The degrading, dehumanising and demeaning elements are so strong as to form the dominant effect of the video recording.

An objectionable classification on any excised version of the video recording would be a reasonable and demonstrably justified limitation on s14 of the NZBR Act, due to the likelihood that even strictly limited availability of the publication would be injurious to the public good.

In summary, the video recording is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the use of urine in association with sexual conduct. The nature of the rest of the video recording is such that excision of the scenes of urination would not alter the classification.

OFLC Ref: 9700132